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BOOK REVIEWS.

ANNALS OF AUGUSTA COUNTY, VIRGINIA, from 1726 to 1871. By Jos. A. Waddell, member of the Virginia Historical Society. Second edition, revised and enlarged [county seal]. Staunton, Va., C. Russell Caldwell, publisher, 1902, pp. viii, 545.

To the student of the history of Virginia or of the United States the chief interest of the history of Augusta County lies in the fact that the latter is, to a great degree, the story of Virginia's Winning of the West.

A county which nominally extended from the Blue Ridge to the Mississippi and Ohio, and which really exercised some sort of jurisdiction over a large part of the present West Virginia, and a portion of Pennsylvania, must have been the scene of the principal events during the advance of Virginia to the Westward.

Outside of the students of history is a vastly larger class, which buys and reads historical works because they contain something of personal interest, some biographical notice, or some bit of family history.

The *Annals of Augusta County* as written by Mr. Waddell contains so much of value alike to the student and to the tens of thousands of descendants of Augusta men, who are now scattered throughout the United States, that one edition of his work (which was issued in two forms) has been exhausted, and there has been a demand which has called forth this new and greatly enlarged and improved one.

The author is a native and life long resident of the county of which he writes, and through a period extending over many years has been a loving and most industrious student of her history and antiquities and of the genealogy of her families

The difference between the first and the present edition may be judged by the statement that the former contained 492 pages, while the latter has 563 of considerably larger size.

An extract from the preface gives some of the sources of the additional matter in the new edition :

"Since the publication of the first edition of these *Annals* in 1886, I have obtained a large amount of additional and interesting information relating to the history of Augusta County. I may refer to the extracts from the records of Orange County Court, the journal of Thomas Lewis, and the records of baptisms by the Rev. John Craig, the last of which also contains other items of interest. The applications for pensions by Revolutionary soldiers in 1832, accidentally found, unindexed and unlabeled, in the clerk's office of the County Court, has offered much ad-

ditional information in regard to the history of the county during that war. Having learned that the Historical Society of Wisconsin contained two ancient manuscripts relating to the county, part of the collections of Dr. Lyman Draper, I applied for and obtained copies. These were muster rolls of the officers and men comprising nine companies of militia in the year 1742, and a list of persons killed or captured by the Indians, in the county, from October, 1754, to May, 1758."

The sources mentioned in this extract are only a few of the many from which the author has derived his information. All through the new edition is evidence of wider and more thorough investigation.

Perhaps there can be no better way of giving, briefly, an idea of the contents of the book than by stating the titles of the various chapters. They are: The Scotch-Irish, an Introduction; I. From the first settlement to foundation of the county; II. From 1738 to the first County Court; III. From the first court to the first Indian war; IV. Indian wars, &c., from 1753 to 1756; V. Indian wars, &c., from 1756 to 1758; VI. Indian wars, &c., from 1758 to 1764; VII. Indian wars, &c., in 1764; VIII. Ten years of peace [which, however, includes the battle of Point Pleasant]; IX. The war of the Revolution, &c., from 1775 to 1779; X. The war of the Revolution, &c., from 1779 to 1781; XI. The Revolution, &c., from 1781 to the end of the war; XII. Emigration from Augusta and some of the emigrants; XIII. From the close of the Revolution to the year 1800; XIV. Made up of sundries; XV. From 1800 to 1812; XVI. From the year 1812 to the year 1825; XVII. From the year 1825 to the year 1833; XVIII. From 1835 to 1844; XIX. From 1844 to 1860; XX. Augusta county and the war of Secession, 1860-2; XXI. Second year of the war, 1862-3; XXII. Third year of the war, 1863-4; XXIII. Fourth year of the war, 1864-5; XXIV. After the war. 1865; XXV. Reconstruction, 1865-71.

There are numerous appendices to each chapter, giving original documents, biographical sketches or compact genealogies.

Perhaps that almost *terra incognita*, the earlier history of what is now West Virginia, can still be covered more fully by future investigators, especially by the historical societies of that State, but the author appears to have used all available means and has made a minute and careful study of the period of the Indian wars.

As the story of the colonial period is of the greatest interest from a historical point of view, so it and the time of the Revolution will chiefly attract the attention of the many descendants of Augusta ancestors. Prior to the Revolution many of the men who had taken part in the colonial wars removed to other parts of the country, and after that war, a perfect tide of emigration flowed from the county to the South and West. There is scarcely one of these descendants, but who will find something of personal interest in Mr. Waddell's book.

In addition to the history of the county and of the life of its people there will be found numerous genealogies. The families of Borden, Craig, Jones (Gabriel), Brown, Hamilton, Breckenridge, Preston, McDowell, Alexander, Christian, Campbell, Smith, Harrison, Allen, Moffett, Trimble, Bowyer, Fleming, Crawford, Floyd, McKee, McNutt, Moore, McClanahan, Poage, Cunningham, Bell, Gamble, Mathews, Tate, Estell, Robertson, Sevier, Waddell, Anderson, Warwick, Cameron, Stuart, and many others are treated of with varying degrees of fullness.

Coming down from the Revolutionary period until the date he has chosen for a conclusion of his work, Mr. Waddell gives a full history of the county and the city of Staunton, and is especially valuable as regards the manner in which they were effected by the Civil War.

Throughout the book shows careful investigation and desire for accuracy.

Space will not permit us to go into a more detailed examination of this very interesting history, but a few things may be commented on.

On page 59 it is said that "in Virginia, during colonial times, little or no concern was taken about public roads." Mr. Waddell, of course, is authority as to the fact in Augusta, and no doubt our roads were bad enough everywhere, but that it was so in Eastern Virginia was not due to the fact that there was no concern about them. The county records are full of orders in regard to roads, appointment of overseers, opening or closing roads, presenting overseers who did not do their duty, &c.

On page 61 it is stated that the county records incidentally show Robt. Cunningham to have been a member of the House of Burgesses in 1746. This explains who was the "Mr. Cunningham," who appears in the journals of the House at the sessions of February, 1745, July, 1746 and March, 1747. Other burgesses not given in Mr. Waddell's list were: John Wilson and John Madison, October, 1748; the same, April, 1749 (there was no session in 1751); November, 1753, and February, 1754; John Madison and James Patton (in place of Wilson, who had accepted the office of surveyor), August, 1754; Wilson and Patton, October, 1754; the same, May, 1755; John Wilson in August, 1755, and a new election ordered to fill the place of Patton, who had been killed by the Indians on his return from the preceding Assembly; Wilson, October, 1755; Wilson and Gabriel Jones, March, 1756, and September, 1756; Wilson and Israel Christian, 1760, 1762, 1763, 1764, 1765; Wilson and William Preston, 1765, 1767; Wilson and Gabriel Jones, 1769 (William Preston was a member for Botetourt at the session of November, 1769) and 1770; Wilson and Samuel McDowell, 1772; Samuel McDowell and Charles Lewis (in place of Wilson, deceased), March, 1773; the same, 1774. Charles Lewis was elected a member of the last House of Burgesses which convened in Virginia, but was killed in battle before the Assembly met on June 1st, 1775. George Matthews was elected in his place and he and McDowell

were the last burgesses for Augusta. Thomas Lewis was never a member of the House from Augusta.

It is not believed that George Rootes, mentioned in connection with the treaty of Fort Pitt (p. 89), was ever a resident in the present Augusta county. He represented West Augusta in the convention of July, 1775, and Fincastle in that of December in the same year. The *William & Mary Catalogue* is in error in stating that Philip Rootes, the student in 1771, was of Augusta. His father (who was a brother of George Rootes) lived in King and Queen.

Mr. Waddell in his treatment of the obscure "Sandy Creek Voyage" in 1756 (pp. 127-129) makes no mention of the fragment of a diary of Lieutenant Thos. Morton, published in the *Virginia Historical Register*, IV, 143-147, and Lyman C. Draper's two communications in the same work, V, 20-24, and 61-76, giving a synopsis of Captain William Preston's journal, then and now in the collection of the Wisconsin Historical Society. Morton and Preston were officers in this abortive campaign, and their diaries throw much light on it.

The Charles Lewis mentioned on page 146 was, as Mr. Waddell suggests, not Charles Lewis of Augusta, but a brother of Fielding Lewis. Colonel John Chiswell (p. 216) did not die in jail in Cumberland, but as is shown by the *Virginia Gazette* of the time, committed suicide while waiting trial in Williamsburg.

The office of "Presiding Justice" (p. 535) may have had no legal existence, but the title, sometimes rendered "President Justice," is frequently found in old records.

We can heartily commend Mr. Waddell's book throughout, with the exception of the index. A work of this character, with 535 pages of text, should have more than a seven page index.

THE TRUE THOMAS JEFFERSON. By William Eleroy Curtis. Author of "The Capitals of Spanish America," "The United States and Foreign Powers," &c. Philadelphia and London. J. B. Lippincott Company. 1901.

This irruption of yellow journalism into biography has been so generally discredited by the majority of reputable reviewers that it is hardly necessary, at this late day, to take it up for examination. It may be worth while, however, to point out some of the glaring errors with which it is filled.

The book shows plainly that more than an eye for striking points in a story, and an appetite for the sensational, is needed for the proper preparation of a biography of one of our great men.

It is rather a pity, too, for with all its faults, the "True Thomas Jefferson" is interesting. If it were not for the author's abounding igno-